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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 384, 1203

SENATOR STUHR: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. This amendment is LB 1203, which was advanced by the Urban Affairs Committee. And it would help cities and villages to better respond to citizen complaints about the need for abatement of nuisances, especially those property owners who repeatedly refuse to comply with municipal ordinances regarding weeds and litter. And the bill applies to all cities and villages other than Lincoln and Omaha. Current law provides that notice to abate and remove nuisances must be given by personal service or certified mail to each owner or owners duly or authorized agent. AM3471 would amend the notice provisions in current law to provide that notice has been given if sent by certified mail to the last known address of the owner or the duly authorized agent as the address appears on the rolls of the county assessor on the date the mail was sent. If the owner or occupant of the lot or piece of ground violates the nuisance ordinance again within 60 days, the notice to abate the second and subsequent nuisances shall be mailed by first-class mail. Current law provides that the owner shall pay the cost and expenses of any such work done by the municipality under these circumstances. If the cost and expenses are unpaid for after such work is done, AM3471 reduces the time to collect the payment by filing a lien or going to court from two months to four weeks. This amendment will provide adequate notice to property owners while balancing the need of cities and villages to respond to citizen complaints about property owners who repeatedly allow their property to be littered or have an overgrowth of weeds. I would be happy to answer any questions and would ask for your support of this amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Stuhr. You heard the opening on AM3471. Open for discussion. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Stuhr, the first notice that would be sent must be sent by certified...oh, I'd like to ask Senator Stuhr a few questions if she'll answer them.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Would you respond, Senator Stuhr?

SENATOR STUHR: Yes.